

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of configuring a computer system with one or more device drivers
2 comprising:
3 creating a configuration information file containing data that enables the installation
4 of one or more device drivers, the configuration information file containing
5 data used by the computer system to automatically install a device driver and
6 allocate computer system resources without user intervention, and data
7 specifying a command to initiate an executable software routine for installing
8 a device driver;
9 reading data from the configuration information file, the data identifying actions to be
10 accomplished and information to be used to install the one or more device
11 drivers; and
12 installing the one or more device drivers based on the data read from the
13 configuration information file.

1 2. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes creating data used by the computer
3 system to automatically install a device driver by implementing a Plug and Play
4 software routine.

1 3. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing an identification string for a
3 device.

1 4. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing a file identifier for an
3 information folder where information about a device is stored.

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1 5. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing a file identifier, the
3 corresponding file to be deleted prior to a new device driver being installed.

1 6. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing a command for initiating the
3 executable software routine for installing a device driver.

1 7. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 6 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing at least a portion of a path to
3 the command.

1 8. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading an identification string.

1 9. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading an information folder where information about a device
3 is stored.

1 10. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading a file identifier, the corresponding file to be deleted
3 prior to a new device driver being installed.

1 11. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading a command for initiating the executable software
3 routine for installing a device driver.

1 12. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 11 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading at least a portion of a path to the command.

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1 13. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes searching a system information file for an
3 identification string, and if the identification string is present, removing the
4 identification string from the system information file.

1 14. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 13 wherein the act of
2 searching a system information file includes searching a system registry.

1 15. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 13 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes permitting the computer system to automatically
3 install a device driver and allocate computer system resources after the identification
4 string is removed from the system information file.

1 16. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes pointing an installation program to an information
3 folder where information about a device is stored.

1 17. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 16 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes placing information found in the information folder
3 in an operating system folder from which the operating system can use the
4 information to install a device driver.

1 18. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 17 wherein if the
2 operating system was installed from a local hard disk drive, then the information will
3 be placed in a system registry, otherwise the information will be placed in an
4 operating system temporary folder by changing the source path in the system registry,
5 and if the information is placed in the operating system temporary folder, then upon a
6 next subsequent boot of the computer system, the value of the source path will be
7 restored to point to the original path, and the operating system temporary folder will
8 be deleted.

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1 19. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes deleting a file associated with a device driver that is
3 being removed from the computer system.

1 20. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes executing a command for initiating the executable
3 software routine for installing a device driver, the method of configuring further
4 including sufficient instructions to cause the computer system to complete installation
5 of the device driver.

1 21. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes executing a command that is a utility to remove a
3 device driver by making a set of standard application programming interface calls.

1 22. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes executing a command that is a utility to update a
3 device driver by making a set of standard application programming interface calls.

1 23. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes executing a command that is a utility to point to a
3 file containing other commands for installing a device driver, the utility making a set
4 of standard application programming interface calls.

1 24. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 further comprising
2 presenting a user interface containing one or more selectable buttons that enable the
3 selection of one or more device drivers to be installed on the computer system.

1 25. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 24 wherein activating
2 a selectable button enables installation of multiple device drivers.

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1 26. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 24 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes searching a system information file for an
3 identification string, and if the identification string is present, generating the
4 selectable button on the user interface.

1 27. A computer system configured to install one or more device drivers that
2 enable one or more devices to convert input and output instructions of the operating
3 system to messages the devices can process comprising:
4 a motherboard with circuits for transferring electric signals among the devices;
5 a processor connected to the motherboard;
6 a memory device connected to the motherboard;
7 a removable media player connected to the motherboard; and
8 a removable media containing computer data comprising:
9 a configuration information file containing data that enables the installation of
10 the one or more device drivers, the configuration information file
11 containing data used by the computer system to automatically install a
12 device driver and allocate computer system resources without user
13 intervention, and data specifying a command to initiate an executable
14 software routine for installing a device driver, and
15 an executable file that initiates a user interface containing one or more
16 selectable buttons associated with one or more device drivers that may
17 be installed on the computer system, the selection of the one or more
18 selectable buttons causing execution of additional instructions that
19 install device drivers based on the data stored in the configuration
20 information file.

1 28. The computer system of claim 27 further comprising an autorun file that
2 automatically runs the executable file when the removable media is inserted into the
3 removable media player.

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1 29. The computer system of claim 27 wherein the removable media is an optical
2 media disk.

1 30. A removable media storage device comprising:
2 a configuration information file containing data that enables the installation of one or
3 more device drivers, the configuration information file containing data used
4 by a computer system to automatically install a first device driver and allocate
5 computer system resources without user intervention, and data specifying a
6 command to initiate an executable software routine for installing a second
7 device driver;
8 a user interface module that displays a selectable button that enables the selection of a
9 device driver to be installed on the computer system,
10 an installation module that:
11 reads data from the configuration information file, the data identifying actions
12 to be accomplished and information to be used to install the device
13 driver; and
14 installs the device driver based on the data read from the configuration
15 information file.

1 31. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes data used by the computer system to automatically install a
3 device driver by implementing a Plug and Play software routine.

1 32. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes an identification string for a device.

1 33. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes a file identifier for an information folder where information
3 about a device is stored.

1 34. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes a file identifier, the corresponding file to be deleted prior to
3 a new device driver being installed.

1 35. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes listing a command for initiating the executable software
3 routine for installing a device driver.

1 36. The removable media storage device of claim 35 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes listing at least a portion of a path to the command.

1 37. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein activating a
2 selectable button enables installation of multiple device drivers.

1 38. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes searching a system information file for an identification string, and if
3 the identification string is present, generating the selectable button on the user
4 interface.

1 39. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes permitting the computer system to automatically install a device driver
3 and allocate computer system resources after an identification string is removed from
4 the system information file.

1 40. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes pointing the program of the installation module to an information
3 folder where information about a device is stored.

1 41. The removable media storage device of claim 40 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes placing information found in the information folder in an operating
3 system folder from which the operating system can use the information to install a
4 device driver.

1 42. The removable media storage device of claim 41 wherein if the operating
2 system was installed from a local hard disk drive, then the information will be placed
3 in a system registry, otherwise the information will be placed in an operating system
4 temporary folder by changing the source path in the system registry, and if the
5 information is placed in the operating system temporary folder, then upon a next
6 subsequent boot of the computer system, the value of the source path will be restored
7 to point to the original path, and the operating system temporary folder will be
8 deleted.

1 43. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes deleting a file associated with a device driver that is being removed
3 from the computer system.

1 44. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes executing a command for initiating the executable software routine for
3 installing a device driver, the installation module further including sufficient
4 instructions to cause the computer system to complete installation of the device
5 driver.

1 45. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes executing a command that is a utility to remove a device driver by
3 making a set of standard application programming interface calls.

1 46. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes executing a command that is a utility to update a device driver by
3 making a set of standard application programming interface calls.

1 47. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the act of installing
2 a device driver includes executing a command that is utility to point to a file
3 containing other commands for installing a device driver, the utility making a set of
4 standard application programming interface calls.

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